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the Christian's rule and practice during the first three centuries after the annunciation of "Peace on earth, goodwill to men,"—why is it not now? As to the alleged Masonic fellowship of Krüger and Joubert, inquiry would probably reveal that Chamberlain and Cecil Rhodes are in the same chamber with him of royalty, the Prince of Wales, head of the order in the British Isles. Now, why are all those people in this enlightened day shooting at or commanding to shoot each other, and not obeying the counsel of blessing of the Holy One who did nothing in secret? "Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God."

JOSIAH W. LEEDS.

Onward, Christian Soldiers.

WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON.

The Anglo-Saxon Christians, with gatling gun and sword,
In serried ranks are pushing on the gospel of the Lord;
On Afric's soil they press the foe in war's terrific scenes,
And merrily the hunt goes on throughout the Philippines.

What though the Boers are Christians; the Filipinos too!
It is a Christian act to shoot a fellow Christian through;
The bombs with dynamite surcharged their deadly missiles
fling,
And gaily on their fatal work the dumdum bullets sing.

The dead and mangled bodies, the wounded and the sick,
Are multiplied on every hand, on every field are thick;
'O, gracious Lord,' the prayer goes up, "to us give victory
swift!"
The chaplains on opposing sides the same petition lift.

The mahdis and the sirdars along the great Soudan
Are learning at the cannon's mouth the brotherhood of man;
The Holy Spirit guides aloft the shrieking shot and shell,
And Christian people shout with joy at thousands blown to hell.

The pulpits bless the victor arms and praise the bloody work,
As after an Armenian raid rejoiced the pious Turk;
The Christian press applauds the use of bayonet and knife,
For how can social order last without the strenuous strife?

The outworn, threadbare, precept, to lift the poor and weak,
The fallacy that this great earth is for the saintly meek,
Have both gone out of fashion: the world is for the strong;
That might shall be the lord of right is now the Christian song.

The Jesus that we reverence is not the lowly man
Who trod in poverty and rags where Jordan's waters ran:
Our Saviour is an Admiral upon the quarter deck,
Or else a general uniformed, an army at his beck.

How natural that a change should come in nineteen hundred
years,
And bibles take a place behind the bullets and the beers:
We need a new Messiah to lead the latest way,
And gospel version well revised to show us how to prey.

Then onward, Christian soldier, through fields of crimson gore,
Behold the trade advantages beyond the open door!
The profits of our ledgers outweigh the heathen loss;
Set thou the glorious stars and stripes above the ancient cross.
BOSTON, December, 1899. — *Los Angeles Herald.*

The Ecumenical Missionary Conference.

The Ecumenical Missionary Conference which is to meet in New York City April 21 to May 1 will be the most important gathering of the kind which has ever been held. It will be a world-gathering of representatives of the great Protestant mission enterprises which have now overspread the globe, and as such must indirectly as well as directly do an immense service in pro-

moting the unity and peace of humanity. We gladly give place to a general summary of the program and to the appeal of the Finance Committee.

SUMMARY OF PROGRAM.

Authority and Purpose of Foreign Missions. Missionary Review of the Century. Administrative Problems. Boards and Societies. Wider Relations. Missions and Governments. Unity, Coöperation, Division of Fields. Self-support by Mission Churches. Non-Christian Religions. Apologetic Problems. Relation of Missions to Social Progress and Peace of the World. Evangelistic Work. Native agency. Native Church and Moral Questions. Education — Elementary, Normal, and Higher Schools, Industrial, Agricultural, Economic, Medical, etc. Education of Women. Philanthropic and Medical Work. Hospitals and Dispensaries. Literary Work. Vernacular Literature. Mission Presses. Bible and Foreign Missions. Missions and Home Churches. Missionary Literature. Young People's Societies. Surveys of Fields by Countries. Statistics. The Present Situation. Outlook and Demands for the Coming Century.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S APPEAL.

Plans for the Ecumenical Missionary Conference are nearly completed. The various Committees have their work well organized. The Missionary societies of every denomination are coöperating heartily. Acceptances have been received from those who as delegates will represent every phase of missionary effort and every land where missionary work is being carried on. It remains for the Christians of America to do their share. That they will do this gladly is assured by the numberless words of sympathy and cheer that have come from every part of the country. All they need to know is what that share is.

It is active support of the Conference. This implies the sympathy with and prayer for it which the churches of this land feel in common with those of every other land. It implies also that provision for the material needs, without which the other support will fail of its best results.

Such a gathering will of necessity cost a large sum of money: halls must be hired, entertainment must be provided for foreign delegates and foreign missionaries, and there is heavy expense for printing, stationary, postage, etc. Most of the work is voluntary, but some who give large time must be remunerated. Provision needs to be made for publishing the proceedings to the Church at large. There are, too, the requirements of hospitality. The least that American Christians can do for the guests from abroad is to give them entertainment here, whether in homes or in hotels.

The Finance Committee asks for \$40,000 to cover the entire expense from the beginning of the work of organization early in 1896 till the history of the Conference is issued and the last bill paid. Of this amount \$8,575 has been subscribed, most of it paid in, and the same subscribers have guaranteed up to \$20,000. The remaining \$20,000 should be subscribed at once. The Conference is close at hand and the Committees are already somewhat hampered by the uncertainty as to the sum at their disposal. He gives twice who gives quickly.

But that is not all that is wanted. The Conference belongs not to a few, but to the many. Every Christian

in the land should feel a personal responsibility for it and have a personal share in it. That share cannot be complete without a cash investment.

Should the question arise whether this investment may not interfere with the income for the regular mission work, we have only to note that whereas in 1888, the year of the last London Conference, British contributions to Foreign Missions were \$4,666,780, the very next year they increased to \$5,367,946, and in 1890 to \$6,457,235.

It is confidently believed that the Conference will result in such an increase of knowledge about and interest in missions as will greatly enlarge the means at the disposal of Mission Boards.

Contributions of any amount will be gladly received and promptly acknowledged by the treasurer, Mr. George Foster Peabody, of Messrs. Spencer Trask & Co., 27 Pine Street, New York, N. Y. Donors of \$5.00 and above will be entitled to receive a copy of the Report of the Conference in two handsome volumes.

Walt Whitman on War.

BY DR. M. L. HOLBROOK.

Walt Whitman was of Quaker ancestry. The principal service he rendered in the war of the rebellion was as a private, independent nurse, going about everywhere to cheer and encourage, and help the wounded and dying.

His magnificent health, his splendid physique and presence made him a personality of great good to them. He could not have been a soldier to fight, on account of his Quaker instincts against war. In his prose works are many harrowing descriptions, of which the following must suffice as a sample:

"Whatever puffing accounts there may be in the papers of the North, this is the fact: No thorough, previous preparation; no system, no foresight, no genius. Always plenty of stores, no doubt, but never where needed, and never the proper application. Of all harrowing experiences none is greater than on the day following a battle. Scores, hundreds of the noblest men on earth, uncomplaining, lie helpless, mangled, faint, alone, and so bleed to death, or die of exhaustion, either actually untouched at all or merely laying them down and leaving them, when there ought to be means to save them."

In his poems he sings, or shall we say weeps, in these lines:

"Away with themes of war! away with war itself!
Hence from my shuddering sight to never more return that
show of blackened, mutilated corpses!
That hell unpent and raid of blood fit for wild tigers or for
lap-tongued wolves, not reasoning men!
And in its stead speed industry's campaigns,
With thy undaunted armies, engineering, thy pennants, labor,
loosened to the breeze,
Thy bugles sounding loud and clear."

WORKS BY NEWELL DWIGHT HILLIS.

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